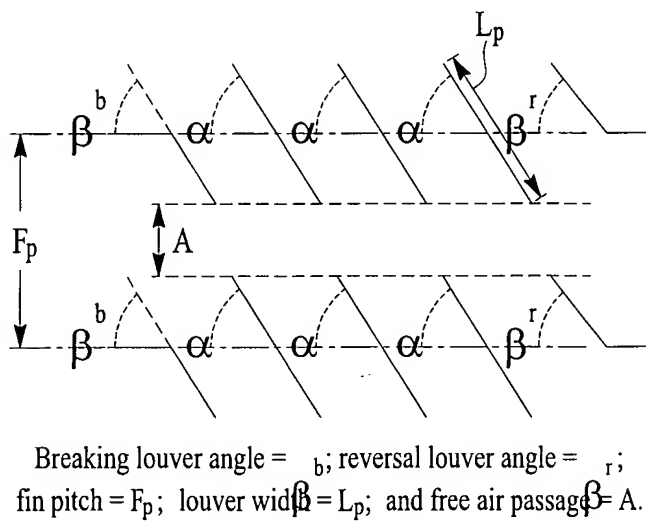


Remarks

The Examiner is thanked for the Official Action dated October 21, 2003. This amendment and request for reconsideration is intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The specification was objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.71 for failing to teach how to calculate the free air passage from the given angles and the non-disclosed fin pitch. Applicant has amended the specification to clarify that the free air passage is provided by the equation ("free air passage is $F_p - L_p \sin(\alpha)$ ") provided in the original specification. Applicant has assigned the term "A" to the free air passage to clarify this definition. No new matter has been entered because the original specification provided the equation defining the "free air passage" as understood by one of skill in the art.

Applicant submits that following sketch adequately represents the definition of the "free air passage" as set forth in the originally specification. If the Examiner believes that the following sketch should be added to the specification, Applicant would be happy to submit a supplemental amendment making such a change.



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Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, for the reasons set forth above with respect to the objection to the specification. Applicant again asserts that the original specification adequately defines the “free air passage” and that one of skill in the art would certainly understand the meaning and definition of the “free air passage.”

Claims 1-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph for containing indefinite claim language resulting from the lack of antecedent basis for the term “the central reversal louvers.” The claims have been amended to address the Examiner’s comments. The claims are now believed to be in conformance with 35 U.S.C. 112. No new matter has been entered.

Claims 1 and 6-7 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Bouzida et al. (USP 6,543,527). Claims 2-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Bouzida et al. (US 6,543,527). This rejection is respectfully traversed in view of the above amendment and the following remarks.

Regarding the rejection of claims 1 and 6-7, applicant respectfully submits the currently claimed invention differs significantly from Bouzida ‘527 in the following ways:

- 1) among the main louvers of the present invention, there is no change in louver angle (whereas in Bouzida ‘527 has inclinations θ_1 and θ_2);
- 2) For the breaking louver and reversal louver of the present invention, the louver angle is smaller than the main louver angle only when their width is similar to main louver width. When the width of breaking louver is only half of the main louver width, there is no need to change louver angle;
- 3) the angle of breaking louver and the angle of reversal louver are independent, whereas the angles of the breaking louver and the reversal louver for Bouzida ‘527 are the same.


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For the foregoing reasons, Bouzida '527 fails to meet the limitations of currently amended claim 1 which requires that "at least one of said two blocks of louvers contain a breaking louver and a reversal louver having a different angle relative to the fin face."

Regarding the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103, applicant refers to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) and M.P.E.P. 706.02(l)(1), which state that an obviousness rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 cannot be based on prior art that qualifies under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) when there is common ownership between the 102(e) prior art and application under examination. The provision of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) applies to all utility applications filed on or after November 29, 1999. Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103 should be withdrawn because the instant application and Bouzida et al. '527 were, at the time the invention was made, owned by, or subject to an obligation of assignment, to the same entity; Valeo.

It is respectfully submitted that the above amendments and comments resolve all outstanding issues and place this application in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe additional discussion would advance the prosecution of the present application, they are invited to contact the undersigned at the local telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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